

# Practical arrangements for a funeral following the loss of a little baby

Over 24 weeks gestation (or neonatal death at any gestation when organised by the hospital)

Patient Services



The prevention of infection is a major priority in all healthcare and everyone has a part to play.

- Please decontaminate your hands frequently for 20 seconds using soap and water or alcohol gel if available
- If you have symptoms of diarrhoea and/or vomiting, cough or other respiratory symptoms, a temperature or any loss of taste or smell please do not visit the hospital or any other care facility and seek advice from 111
- Keep the environment clean and tidy
- Let's work together to keep infections out of our hospitals and care homes.

First of all we offer our sincere condolences on the loss of your baby. This leaflet seeks to advise you of the funeral arrangements we will be making with you. Below are some of the questions you may have.

## Who arranges the funeral?

The funeral arrangements will be made by the Bereavement Centre, in conjunction with the Funeral Directors and the Chaplaincy Department.

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Bereavement Centre will write to you confirming the date, time and place of the funeral.

This is normally within one month of your loss. There is no restriction on who you can bring with you, neither are you under any obligation to attend.

## New Legislation 2018

The government have passed new legislation to waive the costs of child burials and cremations in England, all cremation fees will be met by a new Children's Funeral Fund'

Funeral directors do also offer a 'free of charge' package which is exactly the same as the hospital funeral package. Families now have the choice of going to their preferred Funeral directors or using the hospital funeral services.

More information is available from either general office or any funeral directors.

## Should I have a Burial or Cremation?

It is entirely up to you whether you wish to opt for burial or cremation. Both services start with a short service in the chapel. In the case of a burial this is followed by a short walk to the Teddy Bear Garden for the committal. With a cremation the service ends with the committal in the chapel. You will be given a leaflet to explain in more detail the cremation process.

## What do I need to do?

The death certificate will be emailed directly to the registrars, please call them on 01902 551234 to make an appointment.

You can register the birth and death at the same time.

When you have registered, a green or white form will be sent to your chosen funeral directors by email.

If you decide you want the hospital to arrange the funeral, please let the registrars know and they will send the forms to the appropriate funeral director.

## Who takes the funeral?

Normally one of the hospital chaplains will take the service. However you are welcome to invite your own minister / faith representative to take the service instead. The hospital would not be able to pay any expenses in respect of this person. Please let the staff in Bereavement Centre know if you prefer for someone else to take the service. We realise that some people may wish to have a non-religious service and this is available please ask for details.

## Where does the funeral take place?

If you have chosen Wolverhampton for your funeral it will normally take place in the East Chapel at Bushbury Crematorium, Underhill Lane, WV10 7JG. There is maybe an option to bury baby in other cemeteries within Wolverhampton, however, this will only be a graveside service.

Funerals in Stafford will take place at Stafford crematorium and Walsall funerals can be held at Willenhall Lawn cemetery or Streetley crematorium

## What happens at the service?

You will be greeted outside the Chapel by the chaplain / minister taking the service. You need to arrive at the chapel at least ten minutes before the stated time of the funeral. When the hearse arrives you will be invited to follow the minister into the chapel.

A partner or another member of the family may choose to carry the coffin into the chapel, or the funeral directors will do this for you. Once in the chapel the chaplain will lead you through the service. If you would like a hymn or a piece of music to be played during the service please let the person taking the service know at least 48 hours in advance so that this can be arranged. If you have chosen a burial then this will follow the service.

## How can I find out more about the service itself?

The chaplain who is to take the service will contact you beforehand to confirm the date and time of the service and will be more than willing to visit you to talk through any issues concerning the funeral or related issues.

## What happens afterwards?

### **If you have chosen Burial:**

The deeds to the grave will be forwarded to you about 3 weeks after the funeral, this will enable you to purchase a memorial stone, should you wish to do so.

### **If you have chosen Cremation:**

Any ashes that may remain would be available to collect the following working day, please contact the crematorium directly on 01902 556070 or the ashes will be dealt with as you have previously specified.

## Useful Contact Numbers

Registrar's Office	-	01902 551234
Hospital	-	01902 307999
Bereavement Centre	-	01902 695091
Chaplaincy Office	-	01902 695098
Funeral Directors	-	01902 423708
Swan Suite	-	01902 695516

SANDS - National Stillbirth and neonatal death charity

Tel: 020 7436 5881

[helpline@uk-sands.org](mailto:helpline@uk-sands.org)

SANDS - Local support:

Email: [support.wolverhampton@sands.org.uk](mailto:support.wolverhampton@sands.org.uk)

LAPS (looking after parents and siblings):

Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/LAPSWolverhampton](https://www.facebook.com/LAPSWolverhampton)

Lilymae foundation:

Tel: 01676 535716

<https://www.lilymaefoundation.org/><https://www.lilymaefoundation.org/>

Twins trust

Email: [Bereavementsupport@twinstrust.org](mailto:Bereavementsupport@twinstrust.org)

Antenatal Results and choices:

02077137486

[Arc-uk.org](http://Arc-uk.org)

## Specialist Midwife Bereavement Services

Our bereavement midwives are here to support families following the loss of a baby, they can provide additional information regarding funeral choices and act as a link between the hospital and home.

Carole Sadler - 01902 695149 or 07814 249255

Email: [carole.sadler@nhs.net](mailto:carole.sadler@nhs.net)

Kirsty Malcolm - 01902 695168 or 07341 123002

Email: [kirsty.malcolm3@nhs.net](mailto:kirsty.malcolm3@nhs.net)

## Annual Service of Remembrance

There is an annual service of remembrance for the little ones which is held at the beginning of November each year. Please contact the Chaplaincy Department on the number given above for more details or to be sent an invite to the service.

## National guidance

Under new national guidance, from 2008 all deaths of persons aged 0 to 18 have to be notified to the Local Safeguarding Children Board to be considered by the child death overview panel. This panel may choose to look further into the death in which case you will be further informed.

## Bereavement Centre, Zone C, location C51, 1st floor



## English

If you need information in another way like easy read or a different language please let us know.

If you need an interpreter or assistance please let us know.

## Lithuanian

Jeigu norėtumėte, kad informacija jums būtų pateikta kitu būdu, pavyzdžiui, supaprastinta forma ar kita kalba, prašome mums apie tai pranešti.

Jeigu jums reikia vertėjo ar kitos pagalbos, prašome mums apie tai pranešti.

## Polish

Jeżeli chcieliby Państwo otrzymać te informacje w innej postaci, na przykład w wersji łatwej do czytania lub w innym języku, prosimy powiedzieć nam o tym.

Prosimy poinformować nas również, jeżeli potrzebowaliby Państwo usługi tłumaczenia ustnego lub innej pomocy.

## Punjabi

ਜੇ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਰੂਪ ਵਿਚ, ਜਿਵੇਂ ਪੜ੍ਹਨ ਵਿਚ ਆਸਾਨ ਰੂਪ ਜਾਂ ਕਿਸੇ ਦੂਜੀ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਚ, ਚਾਹੀਦੀ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਸਾਨੂੰ ਦੱਸੋ।

ਜੇ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਦੁਭਾਸ਼ੀਏ ਦੀ ਜਾਂ ਸਹਾਇਤਾ ਦੀ ਲੋੜ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਸਾਨੂੰ ਦੱਸੋ।

## Romanian

Dacă aveți nevoie de informații în alt format, ca de exemplu caractere ușor de citit sau altă limbă, vă rugăm să ne informați.

Dacă aveți nevoie de un interpret sau de asistență, vă rugăm să ne informați.

## Traditional Chinese

如果您需要以其他方式了解信息，如易读或其他语种，请告诉我们。

如果您需要口译人员或帮助，请告诉我们。